

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**LISTING OF CLAIMS**

1-21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) A method for controlling a cargo security system, the method comprising:

providing an electronic control unit capable of performing at least one activity and monitoring at least one function, wherein the electronic control unit includes a main power source;

providing a battery backup to power the electronic control unit if the main power source is not available;

measuring the main power source continuously to determine whether it has enough power to supply the electrical control unit; and

forcing the electrical control unit to use the main power source if available, even though the back up power source has a higher voltage.

23. (Previously Presented) A method for controlling a cargo security system, the method comprising:

providing an electronic control unit capable of performing at least one activity and monitoring at least one function, and having a software control program for controlling its activities;

communicating with a remote computer terminal using a unique serial protocol;

providing a program in said remote computer terminal using communication protocol to adjust security system settings;

providing a battery backup to operate the security system if an external power source is not available, wherein the back up battery is trickle charged from the main power source to prolong its uninterrupted operation;

measuring voltage of both batteries continuously;

connecting both batteries together and allowing the charging current to flow, if the main battery voltage is sufficiently higher;

protecting the charging circuit from overheating, by turning the charging current periodically on and off if there is a substantial voltage difference between both batteries.

24. (Previously Presented) A method for controlling a cargo security system, the method comprising:

providing an electronic control unit capable of performing at least one activity and monitoring at least one function;

measuring temperature and supply voltage at the electrical control unit; and

increasing a control pulse duration of the electrical control unit in response to low temperature or voltages.

25. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 24, including the step of triggering an alarm condition in response to rapid temperature or voltage changes.

26. (Previously Presented) A method for controlling a cargo security system, the method comprising:

providing a security device latch;

providing an electronic control unit capable of performing at least one activity and monitoring at least one function including controlling movement of the security device latch, and

providing one of a short reverse pulse and a high impedance to stop security device latch movement at a desired position.

27-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

providing a remote computer terminal that uses a unique serial protocol to communicate with the electronic control unit;

providing a program in the remote computer terminal to adjust at least one setting of the electronic control unit.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising providing a remote computer terminal that uses a unique serial protocol to communicate with the electronic control unit;

providing a program in the remote computer terminal to adjust at least one setting of the electronic control unit.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising: providing a remote computer terminal that uses a unique serial protocol to communicate with the electronic control unit;

providing a program in the remote computer terminal to adjust at least one setting of the electronic control unit.

34 - 40. (Cancelled)